

REMARKS

Dr. Helms and Dr. Tungaturthi are thanked for the courtesies extended Applicants and their counsel during an interview regarding this application on October 20, 2005.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application for the following reasons. Claims 1-5, 7-10, 12-16, 20-23, 30, 33, 37, and 40-41 are pending and Claims 11, 44, and 45 have been canceled following the Advisory Action.

Response to Issues Raised by Examiner in Advisory Action

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing Claims 1-5, 7-10, 12-16, 20-23, 30, 33, 37, and 40-41. Applicants note that point 7 of the Advisory Action seems to contain typographical errors regarding the allowed claims. Applicants believe that the claims provided above were intended to be allowed based on the Examiner's indication in point 5 that Applicants have overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections.

Applicants have canceled claims 11, 44, and 45. The cancellation of claims does not constitute acquiescence in the propriety of any rejection set forth by the Examiner. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in subsequent divisional applications.

CONCLUSION

The present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

It is acknowledged that these amendments are submitted after final rejection. However, because these amendments do not introduce new matter, but place the application in condition for allowance, entry thereof by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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